



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2004 AGENDA

SUBJECT

Assignment of Numbers for Charter School Petitions



Action



Information



Public Hearing

RECOMMENDATION

California Department of Education (CDE) staff recommends that the State Board of Education (SBE) assign charter numbers to the charter schools to be identified in a last minute memorandum.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The SBE is responsible for assigning a number to each approved charter petition. On the advice of legal counsel, CDE staff is presenting this routine request for a charter number as a standard action item.

Since the charter school law was enacted in 1992, the SBE has assigned numbers to 666 charter schools, including nine approved by SBE after denial by the local agencies. Of these 666 schools, approximately 515 are estimated to be operating in the 2004-05 school year.

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

The law allows for the establishment of charter schools. A charter school typically is approved by a local school district or county office of education. The entity that approves a charter is also responsible for ongoing oversight. A charter school must comply with all the contents of its charter, but is otherwise exempt from most other laws governing school districts.

Education Code Section 47602 requires the SBE to assign a number to each charter school that has been approved by a local entity in the chronological order in which it was received. This numbering ensures that the state is within the cap on the total number of charter schools authorized to operate. As of July 1, 2003, the number of charter schools that may be authorized to operate in the state is 750. This cap may not be waived. This item will assign numbers to additional charter schools. These charter schools were recently approved by their local boards of education and must be numbered at the September meeting in order to receive apportionment. A last minute memorandum will

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

be prepared to assign numbers to those schools. Copies of the charter petitions are on file in the Charter School Division.

FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

There is no fiscal impact resulting from the assignment of numbers to recently authorized charter schools.

ATTACHMENT(S)

A last minute memorandum will be prepared assigning numbers to these charter schools at the September 2004 meeting.